Item 1008-D

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97TH CONGRESS } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES { REPORT
1st Session } { No. 97-217

AUTHORIZING A BUST OR STATUE OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., TO BE PLACED IN THE CAPITOL

ORIGINAL

AUGUST 4, 1981.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed

Mr. HAWKINS, from the Committee on House Administration, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. Con. Res. 153]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on House Administration, to which was referred the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 153) having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the concurrent resolution do pass.

COMMITTEE ACTION

House Concurrent Resolution 153 was introduced on June 23, 1981, by Mr. Bingham, cosponsored by 143 Members of the House of Representatives, and referred to the Committee on House Administration.

In a meeting on July 27, 1981, a quorum being present, the committee ordered House Concurrent Resolution 153 reported favorably by unanimous voice vote.

PURPOSE AND BRIEF HISTORY

The purpose of the bill is to authorize and direct the Joint Committee on the Library to procure a bust or statue of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and to cause such sculpture to be placed in a suitable location in the Capitol as determined by the Joint Committee on the Library. The bill further provides that the expenses incurred by the Joint Committee on the Library in carrying out this concurrent resolution shall not exceed $25,000 and shall be paid out of the contingent fund of the House on vouchers approved by the Chairman of the Joint Committee.

Legislation similar to House Concurrent Resolution 153 was initially introduced in the 92d Congress and has been reintroduced in each suc-

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cessive Congress. Legislation was passed by both the House and Senate during the 94th Congress in differing forms and by the House in the 95th and 96th Congresses.

FINDINGS

The committee finds that the U.S. Capitol is a fitting place to honor one of the country's great black Americans, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. King sought, through nonviolent protest, to achieve racial and economic justice for all Americans. For over a decade, his outstanding leadership moved America closer to its goal of ensuring that the rights defined in the Constitution and Bill of Rights are secured for all U.S. citizens.

In addition, the committee notes that, despite the many examples of the contributions that have been made to our culture and heritage by black Americans, not one of the 681 works of art displayed in the Capitol memorializes a black American. A tribute to Dr. King, the youngest American recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, is an appropriate beginning to a heightened appreciation of these important contributions.

The committee emphasizes that this resolution should not be considered a companion and/or an alternative to the bills pending in Congress to designate the birthday of Dr. King as a legal public holiday.

LOCATION OF THE BUST OR STATUE

The Architect of the Capitol has suggested that the memorial be placed on the first floor, in the octagonal rotunda at the foot of the "British" stair immediately south of the crypt, in the House wing of the Capitol, subject to the approval of the Joint Committee on the Library.

COST OF HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 153

The concurrent resolution authorizes the expenditure of a sum not to exceed $25,000 from the contingent fund of the House of Representatives on vouchers approved by the chairman of the Joint Committee on the Library.

While the committee recognizes the problem of setting a monetary value on works of art, testimony indicated that the amount authorized would be sufficient to provide an appropriate memorial. However, the committee indicated its willingness to entertain a request for additional funds at a later date should the initial amount authorized be insufficient to acquire an appropriate memorial sculpture.

COMPLIANCE WITH CLAUSE (2)(b)(1) OF HOUSE RULES X—OVERSIGHT FINDINGS

There were no oversight findings or recommendations submitted pursuant to clause 2(b)(1) of House Rule X.

The Committee on Government Operations did not submit a summary of oversight findings and recommendations pursuant to clause 4(c)(2) of House Rule X.

BUDGET AUTHORITY

No statement was deemed necessary under section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 as the bill does not provide any new budget authority or new or increased tax expenditure.

COST ESTIMATES

Congressional Budget Office—Cost estimate.—Pursuant to section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Director of the Congressional Budget Office submitted the following cost estimate:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, D.C., July 28, 1981.

Hon. AUGUSTUS F. HAWKINS,
Chairman, Committee on House Administration,
U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Congressional Budget Office has reviewed House Concurrent Resolution 153, a resolution authorizing a bust or statue of Martin Luther King, Junior, to be placed in the Capitol, as ordered reported by the Committee on House Administration, July 27, 1981.

The resolution authorizes the Joint Committee on the Library to spend up to $25,000, to be paid out of the contingent fund of the House, to procure a bust or statue. Therefore, the additional cost that could be incurred by the government would be no more than $25,000.

Should the committee so desire, we would be pleased to provide further details on this estimate.

Sincerely,

ALICE M. RIVLIN,
Director.

Committee cost estimate.—The Committee on House Administration concurs in the Congressional Budget Office estimate which has been cited above.

INFLATIONARY IMPACT STATEMENT

House Concurrent Resolution 153 should not have an inflationary impact on prices and costs in the operation of the national economy.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

In compliance with clause 3 of House Rule XIII, no changes in existing law are made by this resolution.

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